



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY  
U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH  
BETHESDA 14, MARYLAND

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

EB+MI

1-28-49

Dear Josh -

Pardon my slowness in answering your letter. I believe that I get the idea, all right, of your evidence for the diploid strain.

Lately, I've been thinking that I should overcome my congenital reluctance to work on a confirmatory problem - & attempt to repeat your recombination stuff with your strains of *E. coli* & also with some *B. subtilis* strains of mine.

I am beginning to really stack up the *B. subtilis* mutant strains. The only bottleneck is characterizing them. I shall have to develop a really efficient ~~sort of~~ technique of "pin-pointing" a requirement on a production-line basis.

So, I'd appreciate ~~you~~ it if you  
send me some appropriate strains for  
a recombination expt & in return I  
shall send you the lactose-galactose  
bug.

Incidentally, I still plan to use  
the  $L^+G^- \rightleftharpoons L^-G^+$  rxn for expts on effect  
of U.V. & X-ray on the rate in both directions,  
though Zelle's  $\text{Trypt}^+ \xrightleftharpoons[B/o]{B/1,5,6} \text{Trypt}^-$  should be  
a better bug. We discussed this before,  
I think.

I just heard Werner Maas talk on  
"Mech of d-serine inhibition of E. coli" at  
the Navy across the street & expect to  
eat dinner with him now & hear what  
he & B. Davis ~~and~~ have been up to in N.Y.  
Yours,  
Bob G.